

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art of record, Jin et al. 6,250,984, discloses removing excess nanotube particles (acicular emitting substance) by brushing, vacuuming or polishing and then provide protruding nanotubes by etching while Uemura et al. applies a paste of carbon nanotubes (acicular emitting substance), silver particles and glass particles to a substrate then selectively removes silver particles and fused glass particles by laser to expose the carbon nanotubes. The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest the method as claimed including, after attaching particles of an acicular emitting substance to a substrate to form an electron field emitter, the steps of contacting the emitter with a material or liquid material which forms an adhesive contact with the emitter of sufficient adhesive force that when separated, a portion of the emitter is removed or rearranged forming a new surface, and the step of separating the material from the emitter.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melvin C. Mayes whose telephone number is 571-272-1234. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Phillip C. Tucker can be reached on 571-272-1095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Melvin C. Mayes
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1791

MCM
July 18, 2008

/Melvin C. Mayes/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1791